

REMARKS

Claims 50 – 54 and 57 –61 were rejected under 35USC102(e) as being anticipated by Barlian et al. For the reasons to follow, it is respectfully submitted that Barlian et al does not anticipate these claims under 35USC102.

Referring to the Claims and particularly independent Claim 50 to begin with, it should be noted at the outset that the preamble of this claim calls for a device for illuminating an object by directing a beam of light from the device onto the object. To that end, the claimed device in Claim 50 specifically recites light reflecting surface segments which circumscribe a given area and which define a forwardly extending central axis of illumination (paragraph a) and an illumination assembly which is connected with said housing such that its recited solid state light source is disposed within the given area in a way which causes light from the solid state light source to emanate out of said given area at least indirectly by means of reflection so as to project said beam of light in the general direction of said forwardly extending central axis of illumination (paragraph b).

As applicant indicated in Amendment A, Barlian et al discloses an indicator light device not a device intended to direct a beam of light onto an object using Applicant's recited light reflecting surface segments and his specifically positioned solid state light source. The Examiner refers to a reflecting lens (5,17) and light reflector surface segments (14) which define a central axis of illumination. However, in the Barlian et al Publication, the reference numeral 5 refers to a light rod and 17 refers to a light cap. Reference numeral 14 refers to the inner side of the round head 9. Indeed, the following statement is made regarding the inner side 14 starting at Paragraph [0011]:

In order to obtain even and bright lighting, at least the inner side 14 of the round head 9, facing the light emitting diode 12, may be a fine pearl-shaped structure ... with a multitude of small troughs ..., thus not making the inner side 14 smooth but finely roughened. ... The finely roughened inner side structure has the effect that any light emitted by the light-emitting diode 12 will diffract and be captured on the entire inner side 14 of the round head 9, thus making the round head as such shine as a uniform large luminous element. [emphasis added]

It is submitted that the language quoted immediately above and, indeed, the entire description in Barlian et al should make it clear that this Publication does not recite Applicant's claimed light reflecting surface segments and carefully positioned light source to provide the specifically recited beam to be directed in the general direction of a central illumination axis . Indeed, Barlian et al in fact teaches away from this idea by calling for a uniform large luminous element which, of course, makes sense in the context of Barlian et al, given that this publication is concerned with an indicating light and no more.

Claims 51 – 54 and 57, which depend from Claim 50, are allowable for the reasons recited immediately above.

Moreover, in the case of Claim 51 (which has been amended only to correct a typographical error), it is clearly stated that the planar surface of the printed circuit board is normal to the recited central axis of illumination and that the light source (an LED) extending from its mounted end to its free end extends normal to the PCB's planar surface.

Clearly Barlian et al does not even include a central axis of illumination, as indicated above. Further, it is clear from the sole figure in Barlian et al that its LED is not mounted normal to the planar surface of its circuit board.

With regard to Claim 54, it is clearly stated that the planar surface of the printed circuit board is parallel to the recited central axis of illumination and that the light source (an LED) extending from its mounted end to its free end extends normal to the PCB's planar surface. Again, Barlian et al does not even include a central axis of illumination, as indicated above. Further, it is clear from the sole figure in Barlian et al that its LED is not mounted normal to the planar surface of its circuit board.

With respect to Claim 57, the Examiner has not made clear why this claim is being rejected. Barlian et al does not appear to include multiple LEDs.

Independent Claim 58 is not anticipated by Barlian et al for some of the reasons recited above with regard to Claim 50, namely that Barlian et al does not recite Applicant's light source which as claimed is carefully positioned with respect to light reflecting surface segments forming part of a cooperating housing to provide the specifically recited beam. Claim 59, which depends from Claim 58 fails for the same reason.

Independent Claim 60 is not anticipated by Barlian et al for some of the reasons recited above with regard to Claim 50, namely that Barlian et al does not recite Applicant's light source which as claimed is carefully positioned with respect to the cooperating housing to provide the specifically recited beam. Claim 61, which depends from Claim 60 fails for the same reason.

Claims 50, 53 and 63 were rejected under 35USC102(e) as being anticipated by the United States Patent to Chun. For the reasons to follow, it is respectfully submitted that Chun does not anticipate these claims under 35USC102.

Independent Claim 50 specifically calls for a printed circuit board having a front surface and a back surface and further states that control circuitry is printed on at least one of these surfaces. Thus, it should be clear that the surfaces referred to are not intended to refer to side or end edges of the PCB. Still referring to Claim 50, the claim requires that the solid state light source recited there be mounted on the front surface of the PCB, not merely be connected to it. This is to be contrasted with Chun which discloses an LED flashlight and which discloses the use of an elongated printed circuit board along with an LED. However, note, for example, Column 2, starting at line 48, where Chun states the following:

Shown in FIGS. 4-7, an elongated printed circuit board 45 is longitudinally aligned inside the main body 12. Longitudinally aligned and extending from the proximal end of the circuit board 45 is an integrally formed neck 46 which contains terminal 94, 95 to which the terminals 68, 69 on the flashlight's main LED 65 connect. ...

Clearly, Chun does not mount his LED on any surface of his PCB, much less on the front surface. In fact, it should be clear from the quote immediately above and from an overall reading of the Chun Patent that Chun's LED is not even mounted to the neck of his PCB but merely connected to it by means of terminal wires 68, 69. For these

reasons, it is submitted that Chun does not anticipate Independent Claim 50 or Claims 53 and 63 that depend from Claim 50.

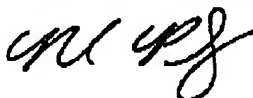
Claims 50, 57 and 64 were rejected under 35USC102(e) as being anticipated by Lin. For the reasons to follow, it is respectfully submitted that Lin does not anticipate these claims under 35USC102.

Referring to independent Claim 50, as in the discussion above with regard to Barlian et al, it should be noted at the outset that the preamble of this claim calls for a device for illuminating an object by directing a beam of light from the device onto the object. To that end, the claimed device in Claim 50 specifically recites light reflecting surface segments which circumscribe a given area and which define a forwardly extending central axis of illumination (paragraph a) and an illumination assembly which is connected with said housing such that its recited solid state light source is disposed within the given area in a way which causes light from the solid state light source to emanate out of said given area at least indirectly by means of reflection so as to project said beam of light in the general direction of said forwardly extending central axis of illumination (paragraph b).

It should be clear from a reading of Lin that this patent discloses a color changing bulb on the instrument panel of a vehicle not a device intended to direct a beam of light onto an object using Applicant's recited light reflecting surface segments and his specifically positioned solid state light source. Moreover, again as discussed above, Independent Claim 50 specifically calls for a printed circuit board having a front surface and a back surface and further states that control circuitry is printed on at least one of these surfaces. Thus, it should be clear that the surfaces referred to are not intended to refer to side or end edges of the PCB. Still referring to Claim 50, the claim requires that the solid state light source recited there be mounted on the front surface of the PCB, not on an edge. This is to be contrasted with Lin which as clearly illustrated describes its LED as being mounted at the edge of the printed circuit board. For both of these reasons it should be clear that Independent Claim 50 and Claims 57 and 64 depending there from are not anticipated by Lin.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the claims, as they now stand, are allowable. Hence, allowance of these claims and passage to issue of the present application is respectfully submitted.

Respectfully submitted,



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